

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

On 26 April 2006, Mr. Faris had a very brief discussion with Examiner Issing concerning how Mr. Issing was interpreting the pending claims herein. Mr. Faris asked whether Mr. Issing was construing the claims so broadly as to read on prior art disclosing only two antenna elements. Mr. Issing confirmed that this was indeed how he was construing the claims.

Based on that comments, applicants have further amended their claims to make it clear that each of the at least first and second antenna systems comprises plural antenna elements, and that these plural antenna elements are alternately interleaved with one antenna in a vertical and/or a horizontal offset. This feature distinguishes over the applied references alone or in combination. The applied references do not teach such alternate interleaving as claimed.

Thourel discloses an antenna arrangement having a parabolic reflector and two primary radiation sources. Thourel does not teach or suggest the alternate interleaving as claimed.

Fink discloses a variable aperture antenna array having various antenna elements 10-17. Fink does not teach or suggest the alternate interleaving as claimed.

Itoh discloses an antenna arrangement having a plurality of radiation aperture units. Itoh does not teach or suggest the alternate interleaving as claimed.

Moh'd Izzat discloses a land-based antenna including a linear array of radiating elements. Moh'd Izzat does not teach or suggest the alternate interleaving as claimed.

Runyon (6,864,837) discloses a dual-polarization wireless base station antenna includes an array of antenna elements, which are spaced apart in a vertical column and

organized into one or more inner sub-arrays located between outer sub-arrays. See Figure 3 for example. Runyon does not teach or suggest the alternate interleaving as claimed.

Applicant also respectfully traversed the obviousness rejection based on admitted prior art. The admitted prior art on page 1 of applicant's specification does not supply the teachings missing from Moh'd Izzat.

All outstanding issues have been addressed and this application is in condition for allowance. Should any minor issues remain outstanding, the Examiner should contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below so they can be resolved expeditiously without need of a further written action.

Respectfully submitted,

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